

LYME REGIS BOROUGH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1970





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B O R O U G H O F L Y M E R E G I S

Tel: Lyme Regis 2136

The Borough Offices,
Broad Street,
Lyme Regis,
Dorset.

Medical Officer of Health
Dorchester 3131, Ext. 470
(STD Code 0305)

HEALTH AND PLANNING COMMITTEE 1970

Ald. R. OLIVER, (Chairman)
Ald. F. D. FORTNAM, (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr. S. D. CREGAN
Cllr. H. A. NORDEN
Cllr. A. RICHARDS
Cllr. Dr. J. B. WALKER
Cllr. S. B. WILLIAMS

Cllr. V. J. HOMYER (Mayor - ex-officio member)

STAFF - PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health,
K. J. ADAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor,
I. D. KENNAUGH, M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector,
K. S. BOLT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (Joint Appointment)

LYME REGIS BOROUGH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1970

GENERAL STATISTICS

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Area in Acres	1,237	1,237
Registrar General's Estimated Mid-Year Population	3,310	3,340
Number of Dwellings	1,333	1,362
Rateable Value (As at 1st April)	£156,577	£161,255
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£640	£660

VITAL STATISTICS 1970

Corrected Birth and Death Rates compared with other areas (Births and Deaths per 1,000 population)

	<u>Birth Rates</u>	<u>Death Rates</u>
Lyme Regis Borough	11.4 (15.4)	10.7 (9.8)
England and Wales	16.0 (16.3)	11.7 (11.9)
Dorset	16.1 (16.8)	10.7 (11.9)
Bridport Borough	15.8 (16.1)	13.1 (12.6)

The figures in brackets are those for 1969.

In calculating Birth and Death Rates, area comparability factors are issued by the Registrar General to "correct" irregularities in the age and sex structure of the population, and also to take into account any high mortality due to the presence of residential institutions.

BIRTHS AND INFANTILE DEATHS

	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Live Births	15	11	-	1	27
Still Births	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths under 1 year	1	-	-	-	1
Deaths under 4 weeks	1	-	-	-	1
Deaths under 1 week	1	-	-	-	1

Infantile Mortality Rate

The Infantile Mortality Rate is the number of deaths among infants under one year of age per thousand registered live births. There was one infantile death under one year of age and 27 births in the area.

The National Rate was 18 deaths among infants under one year of age per thousand live births and the Dorset rate was 13 deaths. Our figure is too small to work out an accurate comparative rate.

CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

(a) Diseases against which routine immunisation is offered:

Diphtheria, and Poliomyelitis:

No notifications of these diseases were received during 1970. This satisfactory position is due entirely to the national immunisation schemes. A few cases continue to occur in England and Wales so that it is vital to continue with this work.

Tetanus:

This disease became notifiable in 1969. No notifications have been received. This is partly due to a national immunisation campaign against the disease but also because infection by the tetanus spore is a rare though none the less serious event. Theoretically the tetanus spore is everywhere outdoors, and gains access to the body through a skin wound. The spore prefers to live without oxygen so that a deep puncture wound is more likely to encourage growth of the organism rather than a graze. Barbed wire, lacerations from mechanical equipment in the field, motor cycle

accidents etc. are typical factors contributing to an infection.

To be immune adults and children need three doses of tetanus toxoid at the prescribed intervals, followed by a boosting injection every five years. Persons who received injections in the armed services many years ago believe that they are still immune, others who after a cut receive anti-tetanus serum think that they are permanently immune. Nothing could be further from the case.

Measles:

Nine cases of Measles were notified during the year. It would be pleasant to congratulate ourselves that this is due to anti-Measles vaccination but I suspect that the occurrence of eighty cases in 1969 had left only a small susceptible population of children in 1970.

I am now frequently asked for advice on Measles prevention either in a family or connected with a place of work. In the case of the former a young baby is usually involved. In the case of the latter employers are anxious to avoid the nuisance value of the disease in time lost from work. The vaccine can be used preventively if given soon enough after exposure.

Vaccination and Immunisation Statistics 1970

Poliomyelitis		Whooping Cough		Diphtheria		Tetanus		Measles
Primary Course	Boosting dose	Primary Course	Boosting dose	Primary Course	Boosting dose	Primary Course	Boosting dose	
<u>1969</u>								
26	107	22	10	23	39	24	72	22
<u>1970</u>								
34	105	29	9	30	87	30	100	32

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the above figures.

German Measles:

This disease is not notifiable and its effect on the average patient is mild. The danger lies in the effect exposure to the virus has on the foetus especially during the first three months of pregnancy. If pregnant women know they have been contacts of a case up to the sixteenth week of pregnancy it is advisable for them to consult their doctors. It is now possible to find by serological means whether they are immune. If they are not immune, further serology in four weeks may show an increase in antibody concentration

demonstrating that an infection has taken place. Consideration may then be given to terminating the pregnancy.

We hope this "stop gap" procedure will eventually complement and possibly yield to a national vaccination campaign against the disease which commenced during the year. Vaccination against German Measles will be offered in Dorset to girls in their fourteenth year through the County Council scheme. The vaccine is also available to family doctors and there is no reason why older girls should not have it, except that they must be absolutely sure that they are not pregnant at the time of receiving the vaccine nor liable to conceive for two months afterwards.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis:

In 1970 responsibility for the follow up of local contacts from this disease was accepted by the County Health Department. Health Visitors trace contacts and give advice. It is also necessary to decide upon procedure, arrange chest x-rays and possibly to B.C.G. vaccinate young children. No cases were notified during the year.

(b) Infections against which routine immunisation is not offered:

Dysentery:

Two cases were notified and occurred in one family visiting the town. It was likely that the infection was obtained elsewhere and by the time bacteriological confirmation was made it was necessary to contact the Medical Officer of Health of the town where they resided.

Infective Jaundice:

One case was notified. This was thought to be due to the Infectious Hepatitis virus. In this case there was no known contact with a patient. The virus is usually present in a patient's stool so that a history of using a communal toilet, or working in an institution where patients are incontinent is frequently obtained. In this case no such history pertained and the cause of this isolated case is not determined.

Other Infectious Diseases:

Two cases of Scarlet Fever and one case of Whooping Cough were also notified.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

Specimens for bacteriological examination are dealt with at the Dorchester Public Health Laboratory under the directorship of Doctor G. H. Tee. This laboratory gives us an excellent service.

JOINT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH APPOINTMENT

Commencing in November 1969 the Dorchester and West Dorset County Districts agreed to combine with the Dorset County Council to form a joint medical officer appointment. I have now had the opportunity to work this area for one year.

I have to confess that when the appointment was constituted Local Government revision was much talked about, and I felt that this type of appointment would cease within three or four years. The work of course would go on, but it is unlikely that one doctor would be responsible for the diverse functions of the present M.O.H. appointment. It is more likely that some of these functions will be absorbed by other medical practitioners, or appointments will be created to cover one function over a wider area.

The new joint appointment works well and uses a medical officer for medical decisions and advice, rather than administrative ones. It leaves Chief Public Health Inspectors more firmly in charge of day to day functions in the Health Departments which makes for better working relationships at all levels. Daily appointments are made by my clerk if necessary in my absence and Council staff know that they have only to telephone to book my time.

The total resident population of the joint area is 58,000 but when peak working is experienced between mid June to mid August I am sure this number must rise to 90,000 or more. This summer population movement brings its own problems. The warm weather increases the risk of intestinal infections and one quickly becomes involved in investigations and complaints with London and the Midlands.

As far as routine work is concerned, I am able to get to most Health Committees, none of which conflict. The Joint Public Health staffing arrangements in Bridport M.B. and R.D.C. are very helpful and time saving to me.

CAUSES OF DEATH

The trends of death locally and nationally are similar. Cigarette smoking is associated with such illnesses as Ischaemic Heart Disease, Lung Cancer and Bronchitis. The remedy to some of this premature disease is to an extent in our own hands. Few persons cannot by now have heard of the dangers of smoking but they do little about it. Is this an indictment of early educational measures? It is generally believed that children start smoking at twelve to thirteen years. Do they become addicted to nicotine before their minds are sufficiently developed to weigh the consequences? One of the best methods of educating is to set an example. This has far better and longer lasting effects than formal lectures, films and other mass media. Smokers therefore are not only killing themselves, they are setting an example of a bad habit to the young which perpetuates itself through generations.

CAUSES OF DEATH

<u>Code</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
B19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	-
B19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	1
B19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	-	1
B19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	-	2
B19(8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	4
B20	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	-	1
B46(5)	Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	-
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	7	7
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	1	2
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	2	3
B31	Influenza	1	2
B32	Pneumonia	-	1
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	-	1
B34	Peptic Ulcer	1	-
B46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal mortality	1	-
BE48	All Other Accidents*	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>TOTAL ALL CAUSES</u>		19	29

*Accidents not due to motor vehicles, poisoning, fire, etc..

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FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD INSPECTION

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970

These Regulations, which replace those of 1960, became operative on 1st March, 1971. The principal changes from the previous regulations are:-

- a) food handlers must wear clean and washable overclothing;
- b) animal feed (e.g. dog meat) must not be kept in a food room unless it is in a closed container that eliminates the risk of contamination.

There are 161 food premises in the Borough, falling into the following categories of trade (note: some businesses fall into more than one category).

Bakers	3
Butchers	4
Fishmongers	3
Grocers	16
Greengrocers	8
Confectioners	6
Restaurants and cafes	23
Hotels	19
Hospitals & nursing homes	2
Fried Fish	1
Ice cream	38
Dairies	2
Public houses	12
Poulterers	4
School canteens	4
Private hotels and guest houses	66

Because of a reduction (to one day per week), in the time which the shared Additional Public Health Inspector now spends in Lyme Regis, it has not been possible to visit all the food premises at regular intervals, but spot checks are made on selected businesses. These visits show that the standard of hygiene has remained generally satisfactory, but there has been a slowing down in the rate at which the older food premises are brought up to date. During the year there were minor improvements in several premises, and major works were completed in the kitchens of the Dorset County Council Adventure Centre, and the St. Andrews Boarding House of the Woodroffe School, both following representations made by this department.

Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regs. 1966

The standard of delivery vehicles used within the Borough was generally satisfactory, but it was necessary to serve informal notices in respect of two vehicles operating here from premises in other areas.

There are no markets held in the Borough, and there are but few food stalls. These are mainly used for the sale of fish during the summer season, either at the Cobb or on the Cart Road. It is sometimes suggested that fishermen have a right to sell their catch at the Cobb without becoming subject to these Regulations, but this is not so, of course.

Food complaints

The following complaints were received:

1. Mouldy apple pie. Purchased from local grocers shop, and found to be mouldy the following day. As the trader had previously been warned following a similar complaint the matter was reported to the Health and Planning Committee, and he was informed that further complaints would result in prompt action being taken against him.
2. Mouldy sausage roll. Purchased by a visitor from a local cafe, and found to be mouldy immediately after purchase. The matter was referred to the Weights and Measures Department of the County Council. The complainant was subsequently informed by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures that legal proceedings were not to be taken in view of the Cafe proprietor's previous excellent record and the precautions which they had taken to avoid complaints of this nature arising.

Food Poisoning

Two reports of suspected food poisoning were received and investigated. In neither case was the causative organism identified by laboratory examination, but in both cases circumstances were found which could have made outbreaks of food poisoning possible.

In the first case a number of members of a local organisation complained of diarrhoea following a dinner at one of the hotels in the town. All had eaten a turkey fricasse which had been made from birds delivered frozen to the hotel seven days before, on a Monday. During the intervening week, the turkeys had been thawed out on the day of delivery and the next day; cooked either on the Tuesday or the Wednesday and kept whole until the Friday when they were reheated and served roasted. The left-overs were then made into a fricasse on the following Monday and served that night for dinner. The history of possibly inadequate thawing-out followed by heating and re-heating over a period of a week presents considerable risks, particularly where poultry is involved, and the hotel management were advised how these risks could be reduced.

The second case was reported by a doctor in a neighbouring town who stated that he had seen three families suffering from diarrhoea and vomiting, all of whom had had a meal at one of the snack bars in Lyme Regis. When the snack bar was visited it was found that the proprietor's daughter had had a cold and sore throat, and had been working as a food handler, preparing cream for fruit salad and doing similar jobs. The importance of ensuring that people with sore throats and open wounds are not engaged in food handling was explained to the proprietor, as was the need for personal cleanliness.

Food sampling

No food samples were taken during 1970.

Condemnation of food

The following foodstuffs were surrendered voluntarily by local traders and were disposed of as being unfit for human consumption:

	Cwt.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Canned fruit			1	3
Canned meat		2	5	12
Fresh meat		1	7	12
Butter			15	0
Yogurt			13	0
Total	1	0	14	11

Poultry Inspection

There is no poultry processing establishment within the Borough.

Meat Inspection

There is no slaughterhouse within the Borough.

HOUSING

The 1969 Housing Act shifted the emphasis in housing policy more towards the improvement of older houses and away from clearance and demolition. The result of this has been a considerable increase in the number of enquiries and applications for improvement grants. It has been the policy of the Council to encourage owners to take advantage of the grants which are available, and to this end they have delegated their powers to approve applications. In the case of standard grants the Council's officers are authorised to issue approvals, and in the case of improvement grants their powers have been delegated to a sub-committee of three Councillors. Furthermore, the Council has laid down guide-lines indicating what kind of works they are prepared to approve for grant purposes, so that members of the public can be assured that they are not wasting their time and money preparing schemes which may not be approved.

Standard Grants

Four applications were received and approved. Work on three of these was completed and the grants paid, and two grants outstanding from 1969 were also paid. The total amount paid was £1102.50

Discretionary Grants

Five applications were received, four of which were approved. Work on three was completed, and grants totalling £1048.50 were paid.

Unfit Houses

The number of unfit dwellings is still being reduced. In 1956 it was estimated that there were 40, and this number has subsequently been revised to 44. Since then 37 of these dwellings have either been demolished, closed or improved sufficiently to take them out of the "unfit" category. The only properties known to be unfit which remain occupied are:

- 17. Coombe Street (Undertaking)
- 43. Coombe Street (Closing Order)
- 2. East Cliff (Undertaking)
- 2. Georges Square (Undertaking)
- 3. Georges Square (Undertaking)
- 1. Manor Cottages (Closing Order)
- 6. Sherborne Buildings (Undertaking)

To these must be added the following which were the subject of formal Housing Act action during 1970.

- 42. Coombe Street (Undertaking)
- 2. Jordan Cottages (Undertaking)
- Little Jordan, Millgreen (Undertaking)

The following table shows the dwellings on which action was taken during the year, or on which there were operative Closing Orders or formal undertakings:

	Demolished	Undertaking	Closing Order	Undertaking revoked	Improvements made or in hand
8. Church Street (part)			X		
17. Coombe Street	/	X			
31. Coombe Street			X		
42. Coombe Street		X			
2. East Cliff		X			
4. East Cliff				X	
2. Georges Square		X			
1. Manor Cottages			X		
2. Manor Cottages			X		
5. Monmouth Street				X	
9. Sherborne Lane					X
35. Sherborne Lane			X		X
6. Silver Street		X			
8. Silver Street	X				
11. Silver Street	X				
12. Silver Street	X				
6. Sherborne Buildings		X			
2. Jordan Cottages		X			
Little Jordan, Millgreen		X			

During 1970, works of major improvement or re-construction were in hand in the following properties:

- 31. Coombe Street
- 5. Monmouth Street
- 9. Sherborne Lane
- 35. Sherborne Lane
- 4. East Cliff

Qualification Certificates

Under the 1969 Housing Act, if a dwelling is improved to reach a new Standard, or if it already reaches it, the tenancy can be changed from a controlled to a regulated one. To reach the required standard the dwelling must satisfy all of the following qualifying conditions: it must have all the standard amenities; it must be in good repair having regard to its age, character and locality; it must be fit for human habitation. Before applying to the rent officer to change from a controlled to a regulated tenancy, an owner must first obtain a Qualification Certificate from the Council. There were no applications for Qualification Certificates during 1970.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the Borough.

Housing for the Elderly

There are five units for the elderly in Hill Road together with an additional unit so that warden service is provided. Additionally there are the six Marder Bequest Almshouses which were improved to full discretionary standard in 1969, and the four Tudbold Almshouses where the question of improvements is still under review.

During the year approvals were obtained for 11 units designed for elderly persons on part of the Roughfield site (formerly prefabricated bungalows Nos. 6 - 10) and at the end of the year 9 units were under construction.

Council House Improvement

The works of improvement to 11 Council houses, Nos. 4, and 25 - 34. Corporation Terrace up to the 12 point standard were completed in June 1970. Additionally works of providing standard amenities at the two Corporate cottages in Coombe Street were completed in December 1970.

Application was made and grant approved for 24 houses at Colway Mead up to the 12 point standard. Houses involved were:-

South Avenue 17 and 18,
North Avenue 1 - 4, 7 - 12, 35 - 42,
Manor Avenue 19 - 22,

and works were commenced in July 1970.

New Housing

During 1970, 30 new units were built, being 22 houses and 8 flats. Additionally conversions at two properties provided an additional 3 units.

Post War Housing

Completed by :	(a)	Local Authority	211
	(b)	Private enterprise	
		Houses	309)
		Flats	73) 382

Number of houses owned by the Local Authority 345.

Waiting List

There were 84 applicants on the waiting list for houses at the end of the year compared with 76 last year and 60 in 1968.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Routine inspections and spot checks were carried out at premises to which the Act applies.

The following are the prescribed particulars to be included in the annual report to the Minister under Section 60 of the Act:

Class of premises	No. of premises newly registered during the year	Total No. of registered premises at the end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection
Offices	1	18	4
Retail Shops	-	51	21
Wholesale shops & warehouses	-	1	1
Catering establishments	1	25	18
Fuel Storage depots	-	1	1
Totals	2	96	45

Number of visits of all kinds to registered premises - 73.

Analysis by workplace of persons employed

<u>Class of workplace</u>	<u>Number of persons employed</u>
Offices	84
Retail shops	167
Wholesale departments, warehouses	5
Catering establishments open to public	156
Canteens	1
Fuel storage depots	6
Total	419
Total males	147
Total females	272

Accidents

The Act requires that any accident involving an employed person which results in death or which disables any such person for more than three days from doing his usual work, must be notified to the local authority.

One accident was reported during 1970. This involved a refrigeration engineer working on a unit in one of the multiple stores. He was cleaning a refrigerator motor whilst it was running, and his hand was caught in a fly-wheel, resulting in lacerations to his hand.

PETROLEUM SPIRIT

No. of premises licensed to store petroleum	2
No. of inspections	4
No. of informal notices	3
Total petrol storage capacity licensed	12,000 gals.

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

No full time rodent operator is employed. One of the Council's workmen who has attended training courses deals with the Council's drains, sewers, refuse tip and property, and also private premises on receipt of complaints.

No. of premises inspected	340
No. of premises treated	35
Infestations found (rats)	29
" " " (mice)	6

Feral Pigeons

The nuisance caused by feral pigeons in the Town Hall and Coombe Street areas decreased somewhat this year because numbers were kept down by the continued use of a trap. A number of birds were also caught in the Pound Street vicinity at the request of local residents.

No treatments were carried out this year using stupefying bait.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

No noise complaints were received.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The developed areas of the town are on a water borne system, combining foul and surface sewers, with the exception of the post war housing estate which has separate systems. All new properties, where practicable, are now being dealt with on separate systems. One small area, Ware Lane, has a separate septic tank and filter. The Council's Monmouth Beach area with caravans and chalets has water borne sanitation.

Over two thirds of the drainage from the town is received and discharges into the sea below low water mark by the eastern outfall (18" cast iron sewer) across Broad Ledge, installed in 1900. The Cobb area is dealt with by a 9" sewer discharging into a 12" cast iron sewer carried out beyond low water mark west of the Cobb. The 9" portion of this sewer is situated in the movement area of Cobb Road and requires constant attention.

Active consideration of new plant continued throughout the year following Consulting Engineers report on contact stabilisation treatment. A planning application was submitted including sea defence works but was withdrawn in September. Consultations were held over a wide area and members visited a contact stabilisation plant in Oxford. In December 1970 it was resolved that planning application be made for sewage scheme including car parking area and amenity space. As the earlier application was to be referred to the Minister, a public enquiry will be awaited on the amended proposals.

Public Lavatories

Accommodation is provided for both sexes throughout the town at the Square, Marine Parade, Cobb Beach, Monmouth Beach, Holmbush and Woodmead Halls Car Parks.

Pollution of Rivers

No serious pollution occurs in the River Lym during its course through the Borough.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

No nuisances were reported.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

One boarding establishment (for cats) is licensed.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

A weekly collection is made of household and trade refuse by one lorry, and in the summer months additional collections are made in the business areas of the town as required. The refuse is disposed of at a tip on the cliffs east of the town. All the main streets are swept daily. Gullies are cleared on the Borough roads by the Council and on the classified roads by the County Council. Litter baskets are provided in parts of the town and beaches.

SCHOOLS

These are regularly inspected; all have piped water supplies, water closets and washing facilities. Primary schools are supplied daily with pasteurised milk.

CAMPING SITES

There is one well maintained site of $7\frac{1}{2}$ acres situated on the hill to the north of the town, with 200 pitches licensed for summer use only and winter storage. The site has main drainage and water supply.

On the Monmouth beach, owned by the Council, there exists a total of 70 day huts, caravans and chalets for summer use only. Water is supplied by standpipes at various points. The former R.A.F. recreation building was acquired by the Council and converted to form a block of toilets and ablutions to the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act standards. It provides male and female accommodation totalling 15 water closets, 10 wash-hand basins, 6 showers and 3 laundry sinks and is connected to the main sewer, water and electricity services, with a hot water supply by metered gas.

On the same beach the Council own and let 28 residential chalets all with individual main services, for seasonal letting. Lavatory accommodation is provided at the rear in a separate block of buildings, and drains to the public sewer.

On the Monmouth plateau there are 19 caravans each with a gully connected to the sewer, a standpipe for water supply for each pair of caravans and a block of toilets.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

FACTORIES ON THE COUNCIL'S REGISTER AND DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS MADE

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities.	1	0	0	0
Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities	14	3	0	0
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities (excluding Outworkers' premises)	15	15	0	0
Total	30	18	0	0

FACTORIES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness.	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding.	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable)					
Temperature.)	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate)					
Ventilation.)	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors.	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	0	0	0
(c) Not separate for sexes	0	0	0	0	0
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outwork).	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	1	1	0	0	0

OUTWORK Section 133				Section 134		
Nature of work.	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 133(1)(c).	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises.	Notices served.	Prosecutions
1	1	0	0	0	0	0

Note: The class of work specified by 1 in column 1 is the making, cleaning etc. of wearing apparel.

WATER SUPPLY

Lyme Regis obtains its water supply from the East Devon Water Board. The Hartstongue spring, Pinhay, has a capacity of 500,000 gallons per day and there is a 500,000 gallon reservoir at Rousdon providing additional storage for the area.

In addition, to guard against interruption in supplies through landslips at the Pinhay Source, 120,000 gallons per day can be abstracted from the River Axe.

All dwellinghouses with the exception of two which have private supplies, are supplied from public water mains, direct to the houses. There are no houses dependant upon standpipes.

Bacteriological Analyses

56 samples were taken from springs, reservoirs, mains and household taps for bacteriological examination with the following results:-

Number of samples containing no Bact. Coli. type 1 organisms per 100ml =											56
"	"	"	"	"	"	Coliform organisms per 100 ml	=				45
"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	4
"	"	"	"	"	2	"	"	"	"	"	4
"	"	"	"	"	3	"	"	"	"	"	1
"	"	"	"	"	4	"	"	"	"	"	1
"	"	"	"	"	7	"	"	"	"	"	1

These results indicate a satisfactory standard of water supply.

Chemical Analysis

Report on a sample of water taken recently at Pinhay Pumping Station.
(results are in parts per million).

Appearance	clear & bright	non carbonate hardness	28.0
colour	5° HAZEN	total hardness	260.0
taste and odour	satisfactory	total solids (dried @ 180°C	366.0
turbidity	Nil	carbonate	139.0
pH	7.6	sulphate	29.9
Conductivity (25°C)	580 (umhos)	chloride	32.6
Free carbondioxide	11.5	nitrate	14.0
total alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	232.0	fluoride	0.1
caustic alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	NIL	silica	3.1
ammoniacal nitrogen	0.04	iron	trace
albuminoid nitrogen	0.05	aluminium, manganese, zinc, copper, lead,	all absent
nitrate nitrogen	2.3		
oxygen absorbed (4 hrs @ 26.7°C)	0.2	Free residual chlorine	0.2
carbonate hardness	232.0		
	25.		

From the aspect of the chemical analysis these results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes. The public water supply has been satisfactory in quantity during the year.

I am grateful to Mr.E.C.Gordon, Chief Engineer to the East Devon Water Board, for his help and advice on this section of the report.

Rainfall

Whilst there is no official Weather Station in the Borough, records are kept by the Assistant Borough Surveyor, from which the following are extracted.

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
January	4.47	3.15	3.62	3.56	4.39	7.25
February	0.10	5.24	3.41	2.38	2.93	3.82
March	3.35	0.95	2.93	1.25	3.27	1.53
April	0.95	4.59	1.34	2.86	1.72	2.67
May	2.22	2.13	4.68	2.63	3.88	1.53
June	2.68	1.80	0.64	4.97	1.24	1.19
July	4.01	1.60	1.80	2.67	3.47	2.39
August	4.11	3.83	2.38	2.07	1.62	2.51
September	3.26	0.76	4.64	4.61	1.93	4.41
October	0.98	6.20	6.07	3.89	0.50	1.58
November	4.58	2.44	1.80	3.45	5.57	7.96
December	5.80	3.60	2.53	4.50	3.20	1.66
Totals	36.51	36.29	35.84	38.84	33.72	38.50

MEANS OF ESCAPE FROM FIRE

Section 60 of the Public Health Act, 1936, deals with the means of escape from fire in the case of certain high buildings such as hotels, blocks of flats and boarding schools. Where it appears to the local authority that such a building is not provided with adequate means of escape they must require the owner of the building to make satisfactory provisions.

Following a number of fatal fires in other parts of the country, the Home Office in 1969 asked local authorities to ensure that they excersised their powers in this direction whenever necessary. Consequently, a number of inspections were carried out in Lyme Regis during 1970, and statutory notices were served on the owners of the following buildings requiring them to make satisfactory provision:-

Summerhill, Charmouth Road.
Victoria Hotel, Uplyme Road.
Cobb House Flats, The Cobb.
New Haven Hotel, Pound Street.
Alexandra Hotel, Pound Street.

The co-operation of the Chief Fire Officer, Dorset Fire
Brigade, is gratefully acknowledged in this connection.

